DC
BAT MAN
378
75¢
CAN 95¢
U.K. 30p
DEC. 84
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
THE MAD HATTER IS BACK--AND THIS TIME, HE'S MADDER THAN EVER!
THINK HARDER, NOCTURNA! SHOW ME THE BATMAN'S TRUE IDENTITY!
NEWTON & GIORDANO
THE NEW
THERE'S NO STOPPING US NOW.

THE MAYOR'S MANSION:
VERY GOOD.
THEN YOU SPOKE TO THE JUDGE...AND IT'S ALL ARRANGED FOR TOMORROW? GOOD...
YOUR DAYS IN OFFICE ARE NUMBERED, HILL.
WH-WHAT--? WHO--?!
I KNOW WHAT YOU'VE BEEN DOING--HOW YOU'VE ABUSED THE OFFICE OF MAYOR.
THE BATMAN! FRANK! CASEY!!
OUTSIDE--A PROWLER--MAYBE AN ASSASSIN!
I THINK IT WAS THE BATMAN!
GET OUT THERE AND SEARCH THE GROUNDS!
DON'T TAKE ANY CHANCES! IF YOU SEE HIM, SHOOT!
THEY WON'T FIND ME OUT THERE, MR. MAYOR.
IT IS YOU--IN HERE!
I REPEAT: YOUR TERM WILL NOT BE SERVED.
POLITICAL CORRUPTION YOU COULD SURVIVE, NO DOUBT, BUT YOU'RE NOW INVOLVED IN A CONSPIRACY TO MURDER...

BATMAN 378 (USPS 045-340) Published monthly by DC Comics Inc., 666 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10103. Second class postage paid at New York, NY and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to DC Comics Inc., Subscription Dept., PO Box 1308-F, Fort Lee, NJ 07024. Annual subscription rate $9.00. Outside USA $10.00. Copyright © 1984 DC Comics Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. Printed in USA.
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...AND OF THAT, I WILL MAKE A STRANGE AROUND YOUR NECK.
H-HE'S LEAVING...

THE COWARD!
RUNNING LIKE A MAD DOG INTO THE NIGHT!

HE CAN'T GET RID OF ME!
NO ONE CAN!
NOT EVEN HIM, NOT EVEN THE BATMAN!
I'M THE MAYOR--GOTHAM IS MINE!

TOO MANY FACTORS ARE IN MY CONTROL--TOO MANY DEALS ALREADY SET IN MOTION--TOO MANY PEOPLE OWE ME FAVORS THEY CAN NEVER REVEAL!
TOO MANY HAVE TOO MUCH TO GAIN WITH ME IN POWER--AND EVERY ONE OF THEM WILL OBEY MY EVERY WHIM!

THE BATMAN IS NOTHING--NOTHING BUT A SINGLE HUNTED MAN LOST IN THE DARK!
2

IN THE CAVE WHOSE JAGGED DEPTHS SHAPE SANCTUARY, HIS DARK THOUGHTS ARE ECHOED IN MADLY WHIRLING SWIRLS OF BATS...
...AND NOW, MORE THAN EVER, HE IS--
BAT MAN
CREATED BY BOB KANE
SO MANY EVENTS AND INTRIGUES SET IN MOTION... HILL AND HIS ASSASSINS THREATENING BULLOCK'S LIFE...
NOCTURNA CLAIMING TO LOVE ME, AND KNOWING THAT I'M REALLY BRUCE WAYNE...
THE MURDER OF STURGES HELLSTROM... AND THE NIGHT-SLAYER VANISHING INTO THIN AIR AFTER BEING SHOT...
AND TOMORROW THE JUDGE DELIVERS HIS RULING ON JASON'S ADOPTION CASE--A JUDGE WHO IS ONE OF HILL'S CORRUPT CRONIES...
ONE HAT MADDER!
DOUG MOENCH . DON NEWTON & ALFREDO ALCALA . JOHN COSTANZA . ADRIENNE ROY . LEN WEIN
WRITER ARTISTS LETTERER COLORIST EDITOR
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LIKE LIQUID MIDNIGHT, HE DROPS LITHELY FROM HIS PERCH...
AND IT ALL BEGAN WHEN I TRIED TO FACE A SINGLE PROBLEM AS BRUCE WAYNE, WITHOUT RELYING ON THE CRUTCH OF MY OTHER SELF...
...LEAVING ME TO WONDER IF EVEN THE BATMAN CAN DEAL WITH THE MAELSTROM THAT SINGLE PROBLEM HAS BECOME.
BUT RIGHT NOW, MAYBE THERE'S ONE PROBLEM BRUCE WAYNE CAN TACKLE...
...GETTING SOME REST FOR THE NIGHTS TO COME.
Wonderland Unltd.
BUT ACROSS TOWN, SOMEONE ELSE PONDERS PIECES THROUGHOUT THE LONG NIGHT...
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ALMOST DONE NOW, MY DEAR...
YES, MY DEAR, AS SOON AS I FINISH PROGRAMMING THE LAST OF THIS DATA GLEANED FROM VARIOUS NEWSPAPER REPORTS--
--WE SHALL INDEED PARTAKE OF SOME MAJOR FUN.
SUCH WILD THOUGHTS EMBRACED BY THIS HAT OF MINE, EH, MY DEAR?
SOMETIMES IT ASTOUNDS EVEN MY BRAIN.
OO-OOH!
AND, OF COURSE, YOU DO REALIZE WE'RE AT AN ADVANTAGE THIS TIME...
4
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

...SINCE THE BATMAN IS CONVINCED I WAS BOUNCED TO OBLIVION BY THAT ELEVATED TRAIN. #
HE SHOULD'VE KNOWN THE MAD HATTER IS FAR MORE NIMBLE THAN THAT.
SEE DETECTIVE #526.--LEN.
"OF COURSE, LUCK OFTEN DOES SEEM TO FAVOR THE MAD...
"MY POOR, DELUDED FOE. BEING HATLESS WAS BAD ENOUGH FOR ME--
"--BUT THE FRUSTRATION HE FELT PROBABLY DROVE HIM BATTY.
"BUT ENOUGH DWELLING IN THE PAST..."
WE NEED REVENUES NOW, AND SINCE MY FORMER "HEADHUNTERS" SCHEME IS TOO RISKY--KIDNAPPING ALWAYS IS--IT'S TIME TO PREY ON SOMEONE OTHER THAN EXECUTIVES...
...ON THOSE WHO HAVE NO RECOURSE TO THE LAW--NAMELY, OTHER CRIMINALS--AND APROPOS OF THAT, HERE'S WHAT WE'VE PROGRAMMED INTO THE COMPUTER OVER THE PAST FEW WEEKS...
MUCH LOOT WAS ACCRUED BY NIGHTMARES, INC.--THE BOGUS OUTFIT RUN BY ONE STURGES HELLSTROM, ALIAS NIGHTSHADE.
HELLSTROM, HOWEVER, WAS KILLED BEFORE DIVULGING THE LOCATION OF THE LOOT...
...AND, WHILE HIS TWO ACCOMPLICES LEE AND SCHRECK WERE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY ALIVE, THEY SIMPLY DO NOT KNOW WHERE HELLSTROM STASHED THE BULK OF THE LOOT.
5

NOW, ACCORDING TO THE BATMAN HIMSELF--
--HELLSTROM WAS MURDERED BY ONE ANTON KNIGHT, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE THIEF OF NIGHT, WHEREABOUTS REGRETTABLY UNKNOWN.
BUT AGAIN ACCORDING TO THE BATMAN, NATALIA KNIGHT-- ANTON'S ALLEGED FORMER ACCOMPLICE, LOVER, AND ADOPTIVE SISTER-- IS OR WAS NOCTURNA.
THUS, ALTHOUGH NO CHARGES HAVE BEEN FILED AGAINST HER, THE MATTER OF HER DIRECT INVOLVEMENT IS IRRELEVANT AND SHE REMAINS THE SINGLE MOST LIKELY AND ACCESSIBLE SOURCE OF KNOWLEDGE CONCERNING THE MISSING LOOT.
"AND FROM THE SEEMINGLY UNRELATED ADOPTION CASE OF ONE JASON WOOD, WE KNOW THAT NATALIA KNIGHT--PROFESSING RESPECTABILITY THESE DAYS-- CURRENTLY RESIDES IN THE PENTHOUSE SUITE OF THE RITZ-CARLTON..."
...EXPENSIVE DIGS, TO SAY THE LEAST, BUT HARDLY PRICED BEYOND RANGE OF THE MISSING LOOT.
ERGO, MY DEAR, THE PATH TO THE LOOT BEGINS IN THE RAREFIED HEIGHTS OF THAT PENTHOUSE.
MAH! NOT SO MAD AFTER ALL, AM I, DARLING?
OO-OOH
OO-OOH-OO!
6

DAY:
--BUT I HAVE SINCE FOUND REASON TO CHANGE MY OPINION OF--
YOUR EXPERT TESTIMONY--UNDER OATH--IS ALREADY PART OF THE RECORD, MS. GROSCZ.
YES, YOUR HONOR, BUT I HAVE SINCE LEARNED PERTINENT FACTS ABOUT THE BOY'S ATTITUDE WHICH--
DOES THE BOY OR DOES HE NOT SO STATE THAT HE WISHES TO BE ADOPTED BY THE PETITIONER?
HE DOES, BUT--
AND IS THE PETITIONER OR IS SHE NOT CAPABLE OF PROVIDING AN ADEQUATE HOME?
SHE IS, BUT--
THEN MY JUDGMENT IN THIS MATTER--WITHOUT FURTHER INTERRUPTION, MS. GROSCZ--
--IS THAT FULL CUSTODY AND ADOPTION OF JASON TODD IS HEREBY AWARDED TO THE PETITIONER NATALIA KNIGHT.
WE HAVE WON, JASON.
Y-YEAH.
THERE MAY BE A CHANCE TO APPEAL, MR. WAYNE.
I... I DON'T BELIEVE IT--HE WOULDN'T EVEN LISTEN...
CUSTODY OF THE CHILD TO BE REMANDED FROM THE GOTHAM CHILD WELFARE BUREAU TO MS. KNIGHT ON MONDAY NEXT.
THAT IS ALL.
7

AND WHEN NATALIA KNIGHT FINALLY, SLOWLY, TURNS TO FACE BRUCE WAYNE, HER EYES CONVEY SOME ELUSIVE FORM OF MUTE APPEAL.
HE EXPECTED THIS FROM THE JUDGE...
...BUT HE EXPECTED SOMETHING MORE FROM NATALIA--NOT GLOATING, NEVER THAT FROM HER, BUT...SOMETHING.
OUTSIDE:
MR. WAYNE, I WISH TO APOLOGIZE. I FEEL THAT SOMEHOW THIS IS ALL MY FAULT. IF ONLY I'D KNOWN THE TRUE DEPTH OF YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JASON WHEN--
IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT, MS. GROSCZ-- THE DECISION WAS MADE HIGHER UP...
MUCH HIGHER UP.
AND SUDDENLY THE BOY IS RUSHING TO HIM, FALLING HIS ARMS...
ANOTHER UNEXPECTED REACTION, FOR IT WAS JASON WHO REQUESTED TO BE ADOPTED BY NATALIA KNIGHT, HOPING TO USE HIS OWN FATE TO FURTHER PROVE HIMSELF AS ROBIN--- AND NOW, IS HE ACTUALLY WEEPING?
STAY COOL, BRUCE, 'CAUSE IT'LL ALL WORK OUT-- ONCE I GET ENOUGH GOODS ON NATALIA FROM THE INSIDE TO EXPOSE HER AS NOCTURNA.
NO TEARS--THE "EMOTIONAL" FAREWELL IS BUT A RUSE.
THEN HE WAS WRONG ONLY ABOUT NATALIA...
...AND YOUTH KNOWS NO SET-BACKS.
8

AS FOR BRUCE WAYNE HIMSELF, THE IMPACT OF HIS LOSS HITS ONLY THAT NIGHT...
DON'T WORRY, SIR-- I'M SURE THE SETBACK IS ONLY TEMPORARY.
FATHER'S RIGHT, BRUCE-- YOU'LL HAVE JASON BACK BEFORE YOU KNOW IT.
LIGHTS ON--SO HE'S HOME...

ALFRED... JULIA... I APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS TO CONSOLE ME, BUT--
BING BONG

EXCUSE ME, SIR-- I'LL GET THE DOOR.
YES, ALFRED... YOU DO THAT.

OH. I DIDN'T EXPECT TO FIND YOU HERE, JULIA.
MISS VICKI VALE, SIR.
I HEARD ABOUT THE JUDGMENT, BRUCE, AND I...I JUST WANTED TO SAY HOW SORRY FOR YOU I--

THAT'S ENOUGH.
LOOK--I APPRECIATE EVERY-ONE'S CONCERN, BUT I'VE SIMPLY GOT TO BE ALONE.

GOT TO GET MY MIND OFF EVERYTHING ELSE BY FOCUSING ON A SINGLE PROBLEM--BY ACCOMPLISHING SOMETHING, EVEN IF IT'S ONLY SOMETHING SMALL.
...SO IT'S TIME FOR THE BATMAN TO SUCCEED AT SOMETHING ELSE.
BUT WHICH PROBLEM TO TACKLE--?
HILL?--THE ONE WHO PULLED POLITICAL STRINGS TO BRING ABOUT BRUCE WAYNE'S DEFEAT?
NO--HILL IS SCARED ENOUGH FOR THE TIME BEING.
NOCTURNA? BUT DO I TRUST MYSELF TO EVEN FACE HER AGAIN? NO--EVEN WITH VICKI AND JULIA RIGHT UPSTAIRS IN THE MANOR--
--I STILL FEEL MYSELF UNFATHOMABLY AND PERHAPS FATALLY OBSESSED WITH NOCTURNA.
BRUCE WAYNE, ARMED WITH ALL HIS WEALTH AND HIS PLATOONS OF LAWYERS, HAS ARMED IN THE FIGHT TO GAIN CUSTODY OF JASON...
AND THAT LEAVES EITHER BULLOCK'S PROBLEM--
--OR THE MYSTERY OF THE MISSING THIEF OF NIGHT, HE WHO HAS NOW BECOME THE NIGHT-SLAYER...
AND SINCE BULLOCK IS A BIG BOY NOW...
...WHERE IN THE NIGHT ARE YOU, MURDERER?

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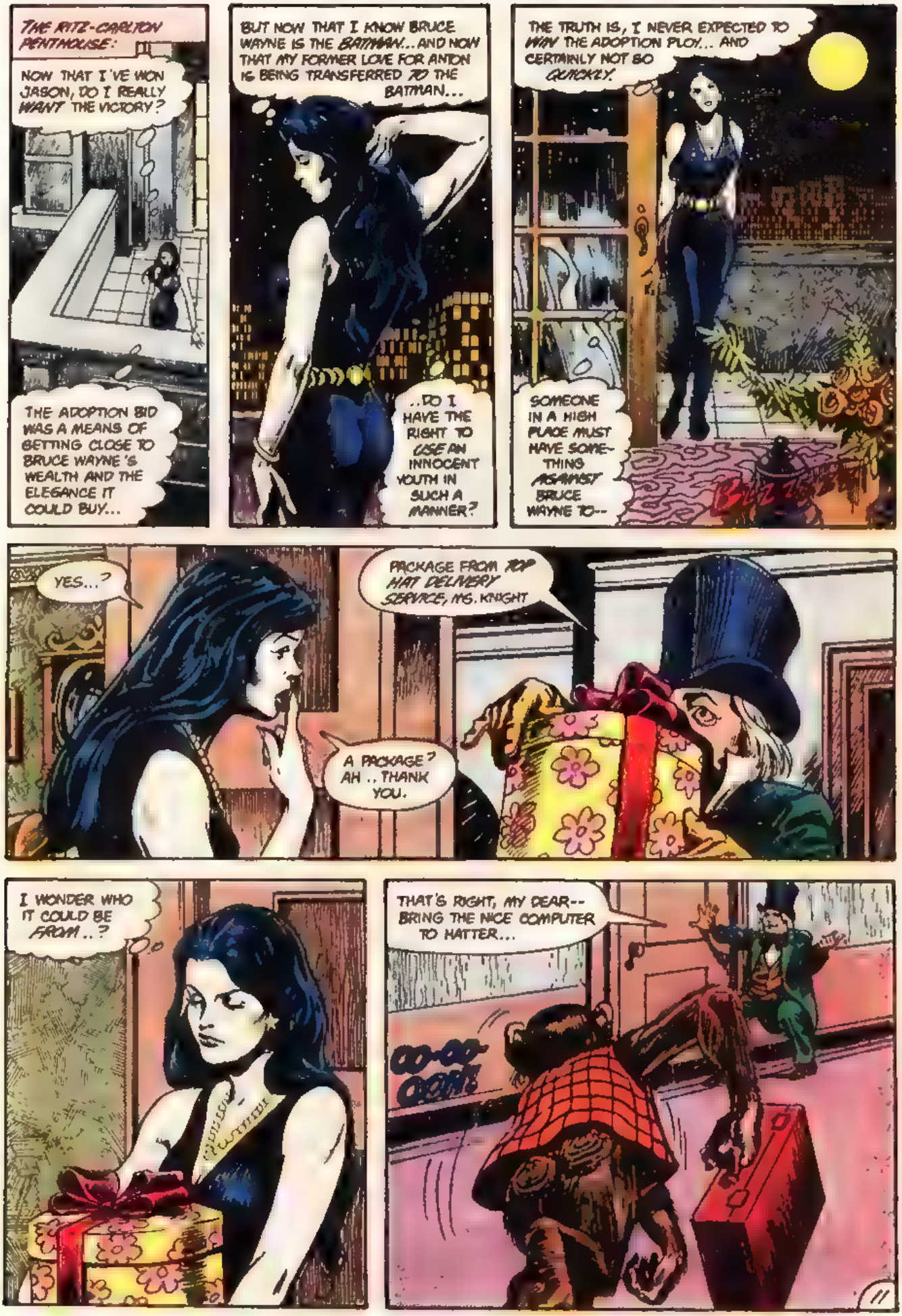
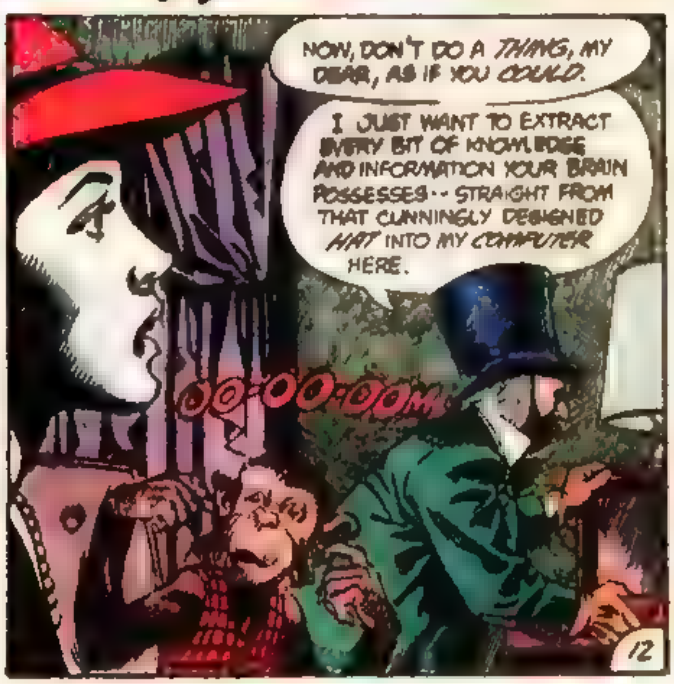

THE RITZ-CARLTON PENTHOUSE:
NOW THAT I'VE WON JASON, DO I REALLY WANT THE VICTORY?
THE ADOPTION BID WAS A MEANS OF GETTING CLOSE TO BRUCE WAYNE'S WEALTH AND THE ELEGANCE IT COULD BUY...
BUT NOW THAT I KNOW BRUCE WAYNE IS THE BATMAN... AND NOW THAT MY FORMER LOVE FOR ANTON IS BEING TRANSFERRED TO THE BATMAN...
..DO I HAVE THE RIGHT TO USE AN INNOCENT YOUTH IN SUCH A MANNER?
THE TRUTH IS, I NEVER EXPECTED TO WIN THE ADOPTION PLOY... AND CERTAINLY NOT SO QUICKLY.
SOMEONE IN A HIGH PLACE MUST HAVE SOMETHING AGAINST BRUCE WAYNE TO--
YES...?
PACKAGE FROM TOP HAT DELIVERY SERVICE, MS. KNIGHT
A PACKAGE? AH.. THANK YOU.
I WONDER WHO IT COULD BE FROM..?
THAT'S RIGHT, MY DEAR-- BRING THE NICE COMPUTER TO HATTER...
11

A HAT--AND THE CARD SAYS, "FROM AN ANONYMOUS ADMIRER."
COULD IT BE BRUCE WAYNE--THE BATMAN?
AND IF SO... DID HE SEND IT ONLY BECAUSE I'VE NOW MET JASON?
AHAH! SHE'S JUST PUT IT ON, DARLING..
PING
PING
PING
TIME TO ACTIVATE ITS BIO-FEEDBACK SIGNAL AND SCRAMBLE HER ALPHA BRAINWAVES..
PING
PING
PING
PING
"...PUTTING HER INTO A HELPLESS TRANCE."

VAKT
HELLO AGAIN, MY DARLING NATALIA OR NOCTURNA, AS THE DUBIOUS CASE MAY BE.


NOW, DON'T DO A THING, MY DEAR, AS IF YOU COULD.
I JUST WANT TO EXTRACT EVERY BIT OF KNOWLEDGE AND INFORMATION YOUR BRAIN POSSESSES-- STRAIGHT FROM THAT CUNNINGLY DESIGNED HAT INTO MY COMPUTER HERE.
OO-OO-OOM
12

WHILE, IN A DEAD-END ALLEY SPATTERED WITH BLOOD...
NOTHING -- NOT A SINGLE OVERLOOKED CLUE -- AND THEREFORE NO CHOICE BUT TO TRACE THE TRAIL OF BLOOD BACK TO ITS SOURCE...
...THE PLACE WHERE ANTON KNIGHT WAS SHOT -- HOPING TO FIND SOMETHING NEW ON THE WAY...
...AND KNOWING WHAT I ALWAYS KNEW, IF ONLY SUBCONSCIOUSLY --
--THAT THIS NIGHT WOULD TAKE ME TO THE ROOF UNDER NOCTURNA'S PENTHOUSE BALCONY...
MADNESS.
PATIENCE, MY DEAR, IT WILL ONLY BE A WHILE LONGER -- AND THEN MY MENTOR AND I SHALL LEAVE YOU.
WERE WE WORKING WITH MY MASTER COMPUTER, ALL THIS WOULD TAKE LESS THAN A MINUTE. BUT WITH MY PORTABLE MINI-COMPUTER HERE... WELL, YOU'VE SEEN HOW LONG CHANGING THE DISKS CAN TAKE...
IT WAS RIGHT HERE -- NIGHT-SLAYER WAS ABOUT TO KILL ME AND NOCTURNA SHOT HIM TO SAVE MY LIFE...
...BUT STILL THERE ARE NO CLUES, AS I KNEW THERE WOULDN'T BE...
...AND SHE'S UP THERE RIGHT NOW, PERHAPS THINKING ABOUT ME... ABOUT BRUCE WAYNE... AS I KNEW SHE WOULD BE...
I SIMPLY COULDN'T STAY AWAY -- HER LURE IS TOO STRONG...
BUT I CAN'T GO UP THERE -- CAN'T LET MYSELF -- I CAN'T!
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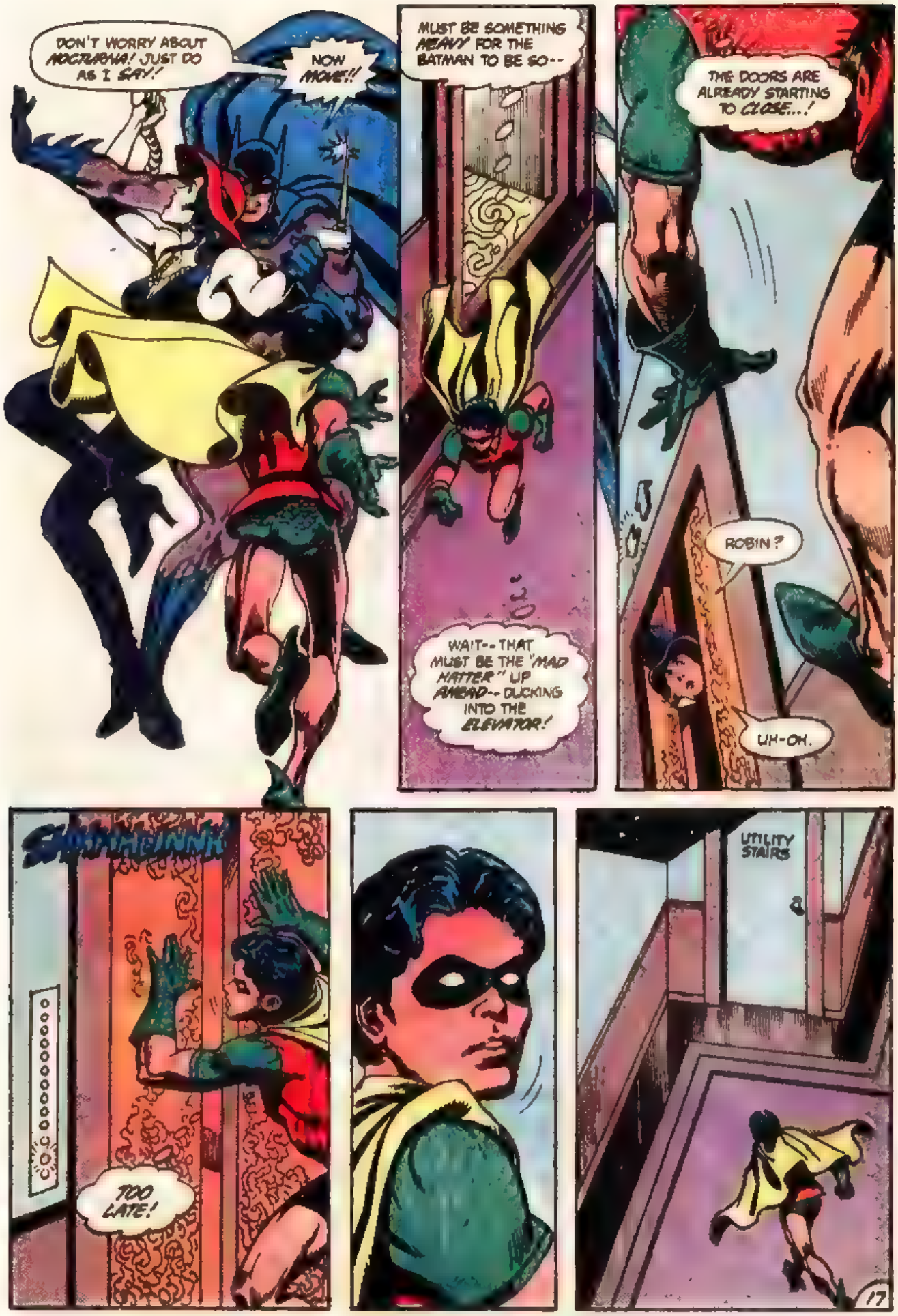
CONTINUED ON 5TH PAGE FOLLOWING.

AH!-- IT SEEMS YOUR BRAIN FINALLY HAS NO MORE TO SURRENDER, MY DEAR-- MEANING WE SHALL NOW BE ON OUR WAY
THE HAT IS YOURS TO KEEP, COMPLIMENTS OF YOUR NO-LONGER-ANONYMOUS ADMIRER, THE MAD HATTER.
AND DON'T WORRY..
IT WILL RELEASE YOUR MIND, ONCE I AND MY COMPUTER PASS OUT OF SIGNAL RANGE-- OR ONCE I DECIDE TO DEACTIVATE IT.
HOLD IT, HATTER!
EH--?
THE BATMAN-- HERE?!
IT'S MIGHT, ISN'T IT?
GOTHAM'S CHILD WELFARE BUREAU:
CAN'T WAIT TILL MONDAY-- CAN'T WAIT ANOTHER MINUTE...
ITCHIN' FOR ACTION, AND THE RITZ-CARLTON'S ONLY A FEW BLOCKS AWAY.
I CAN SNEAK IN, SEARCH FOR EVIDENCE, AND BE BACK IN BED WITHIN THE HOUR.
NIGHT IT MAY WELL BE, BATMAN--
--BUT WHY SHOULD I FACE YOUR FISTS WHEN I HAVE A MOST OBEDIENT "ROBOT" AT MY VERY FINGERTIPS?

LET'S SEE... THIS SHOULD SCRAMBLE HER BRAINWAVES ENOUGH--
CHUK
CHUK
--TO DRIVE HER SUFFICIENTLY MAD..
Y-YOU--!!
THE ONE WHO FORCED ME TO KILL ANTON--!
SHUNT
DIDN'T EXPECT THIS...!
THE ONE WHO FORCED ME TO SLAY THE NIGHT ITSELF!
HER BELT--!
-- MADE OF A SERIES OF LINKED CRESCENTS--
--WHOSE UNDERSIDES ARE RAZOR-SHARP!
15

SHE MAY NOT KNOW WHAT SHE'S DOING--
REALLY HATE TO RUN, BUT RUN I MUST, NOW THAT I HAVE ALL OF NOCTURNA'S KNOWLEDGE STORED IN MY COMPUTER--
"--BUT SHE'S DOING HER DAMNEDEST TO SUCCEED!"
--INCLUDING, NO DOUBT, THE LOCATION OF ALL THE MISSING LOOT FROM THE VARIOUS THEFTS PERPETRATED BY BOTH "NIGHTMARES, INC." AND ANTON KNIGHT
NOW I MUST KILL YOU!!
GOOD LORD--AND ALSO INCLUDING THE KNOWLEDGE THAT I'M BRUCE WAYNE!
ROBIN!
THE MAD HATTER-- OUT IN THE CORRIDOR!
BUT I CAN'T STOP HIM UNTIL I GET THROUGH WITH NOCTURNA--AND GOD HELP ME, I CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO HURT HER!
YOU'VE GOT TO STOP HIM--GET THE COMPUTER IN HIS BRIEFCASE!
WHAT THE--? BATMAN!
BUT, . WHAT ABOUT--?
16


DON'T WORRY ABOUT NOCTURNA! JUST DO AS I SAY!
NOW MOVE!!
MUST BE SOMETHING HEAVY FOR THE BATMAN TO BE SO--
WAIT-- THAT MUST BE THE "MAD HATTER" UP AHEAD-- DUCKING INTO THE ELEVATOR!
THE DOORS ARE ALREADY STARTING TO CLOSE...!
ROBIN?
UH-OH.
SHHHHHHNNK
TOO LATE!
UTILITY STAIRS
17

MAN!
HOW MANY FLIGHTS ARE THERE--?!
CLOSE CALL, MY DEAR, BUT NOOOOOO PROB-LEM.
BING
HERE'S THE GROUND FLOOR-- AND THERE'S NO WAY ANYONE COULD OVERTAKE A HIGH-SPEED ELEVATOR LIKE THIS...
OO-OOH?
WANNA... PUFF... BET?
OO-OOH!
18

FRAK!
OOO-EEEE
WHAT THE--?!
FORGIVE THE HASTY RETREAT, MY DEAR--
--BUT SINCE THE ELEVATOR DOORS ARE CLOSING AGAIN, NECESSARY ESCAPE OFFERS LITTLE CHOICE.
GET OFF ME, YOU LOUSY BANANA-FREAK!
BANG
GOING UP AGAIN-- AND THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO BUT RETURN TO BATMAN AND NOCTURNA...
THE MAD HATTER'S FREE FOR NOW-- BUT AT LEAST I GOT HIS BRIEFCASE-COMPUTER...
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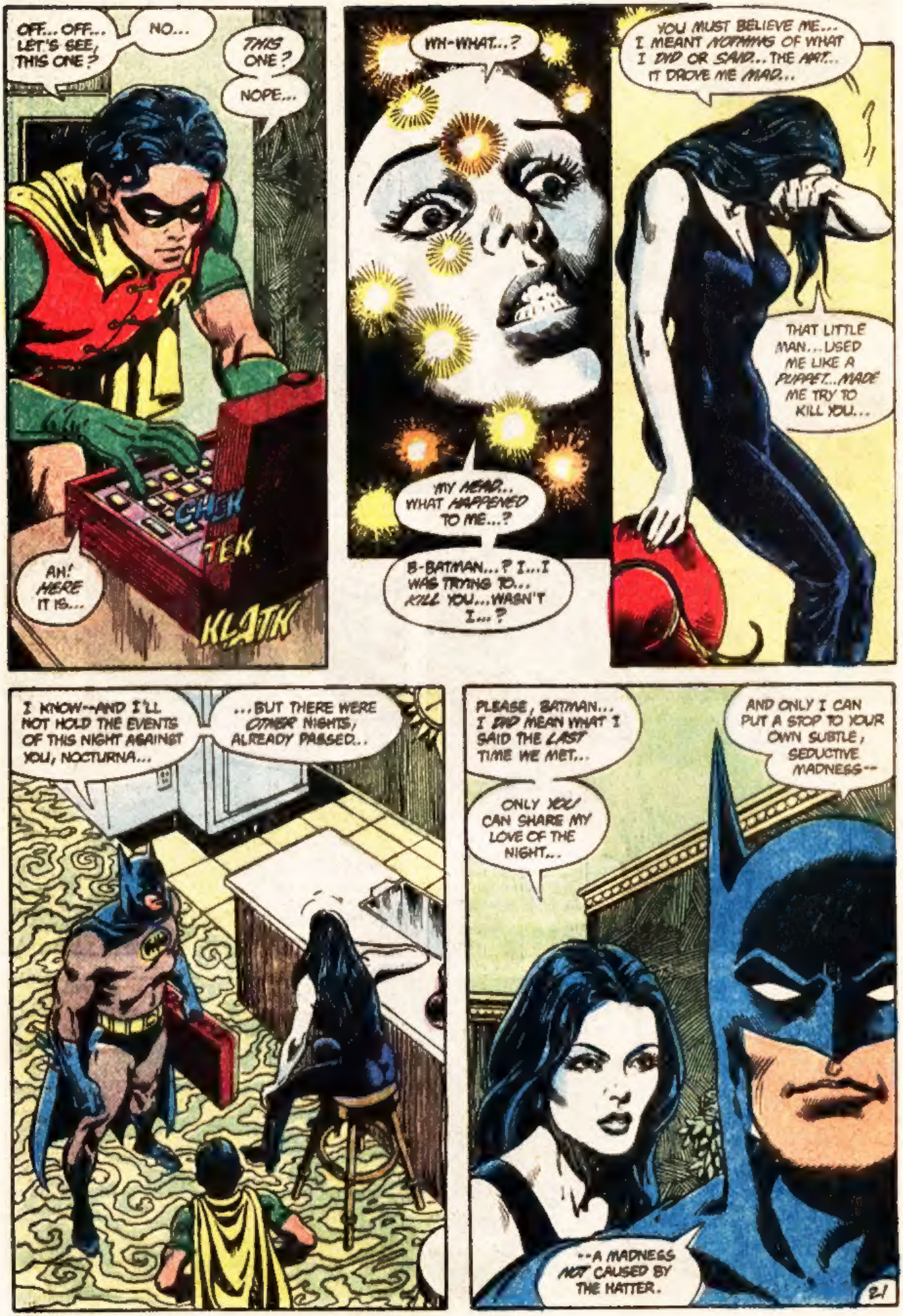
...KILL YOU, BATMAN...
FIRST HER EARRINGS, THEN HER BELT..
WHAT NEXT?
I'VE GOT TO KILL YOU!!
BAOUM
SHOULD'VE KNOWN!
HER STRING OF "FULL-MOON PEARLS" --EACH ONE HOLLOW, FILLED WITH A TINY EXPLOSIVE CHARGE!
AND IF I DON'T STOP HER FAST--
--I MAY NOT BE AROUND TO PICK UP THE PIECES!
BATMAN! I GOT THE BRIEFCASE-COMPU--
SHUT IT OFF, ROBIN!
KILL YOU--KILL YOU!!
NOW!!
20


OFF... OFF... LET'S SEE, THIS ONE?
NO...
THIS ONE?
NOPE...
CHEK
TEK
KLATK
AH! HERE IT IS...
WH-WHAT...?
MY HEAD... WHAT HAPPENED TO ME...?
B-BATMAN...? I...I WAS TRYING TO... KILL YOU...WASN'T I...?
YOU MUST BELIEVE ME... I MEANT NOTHING OF WHAT I DID OR SAID... THE ART... IT DROVE ME MAD...
THAT LITTLE MAN... USED ME LIKE A PUPPET... MADE ME TRY TO KILL YOU...
I KNOW--AND I'LL NOT HOLD THE EVENTS OF THIS NIGHT AGAINST YOU, NOCTURNA...
...BUT THERE WERE OTHER NIGHTS, ALREADY PASSED...
PLEASE, BATMAN... I DID MEAN WHAT I SAID THE LAST TIME WE MET...
ONLY YOU CAN SHARE MY LOVE OF THE NIGHT...
AND ONLY I CAN PUT A STOP TO YOUR OWN SUBTLE, SEDUCTIVE MADNESS--
--A MADNESS NOT CAUSED BY THE HATTER.
21

PLEASE, BATMAN... PLEASE, BRUCE-- AND JASON-- HOLD NOTHING AGAINST ME...
BLAME IT ONLY ON THE MADNESS OF NIGHTS GONE WRONG!
SHE CALLED US BRUCE AND JASON AGAIN, BATMAN...
THEN SHE REALLY DOES KNOW WHO WE ARE.
I'M AFRAID SO, SON.
BUT BY GAINING POSSESSION OF THIS COMPUTER, AT LEAST YOU PREVENTED THE MAD HATTER FROM LEARNING IT TOO.
WHAT NOW?
ONLY THE NEXT NIGHT, AND THE ONES FOLLOWING, WILL TELL.
IN THE MEANTIME, PERHAPS THIS COMPUTER HOLDS INFO WHICH CAN LEAD US TO THE HATTER, IF NOTHING ELSE.
YEAH--AND THIS NIGHT PROVES ONE THING...
22
CONCLUDED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

EVEN IF BRUCE WAYNE AND JASON TODD CAN'T SHARE THE SAME HOUSE DURING THE DAY...
...AT LEAST WE CAN BE TOGETHER DURING THE NIGHTS--AS BATMAN AND ROBIN.
IT'S NOT ENOUGH, SON.
AS ALFRED WOULD SAY... WHO WE REALLY ARE CAN NEVER BE CONCEALED BY MERE MASKS.
AND BITTER AS IT MAY BE, THAT'S ONE TRUTH WE MUST LEARN TO FACE.
IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF DETECTIVE (ON SALE IN TWO WEEKS): THE MYSTERY OF THE MISSING NIGHT-SLAYER--SOLVED!
23